

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
an operator configured to actuate the introducer to introduce fluid into the spine of the patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and
response data indicative of pain level and concordance ~~magnitude and quality~~ of a response of the patient at a time related to a time of the fluid introduction data.

9. (Original) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the fluid introduction parameter is a pressure within an intervertebral disc of the patient at the time of the fluid introduction data.

10. (Original) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the fluid introduction parameter is a total amount of fluid introduced into an intervertebral disc of the patient at the time of the fluid introduction data.

11. (Original) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the fluid introduction system is configured to obtain the response data from an observation of the patient.

12. (Currently Amended) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the fluid introduction system is configured to obtain the response data upon a response ~~input~~ inputted by the patient.

13. (Original) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the introducer is configured to create a pressure of at least 100 kPa within the spine.

14. (Currently Amended) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce a non-pulsatile flow of fluid into a spine, the introducer having a flow rate-dependent impedance opposing the introduction of the fluid; and
an operator configured to actuate the introducer, the operator including code to determine impedance data indicative of the flow rate-dependent impedance based upon an actuation of the introducer and to control the actuation of the introducer based at least in part upon the impedance data indicative of the impedance, wherein, using the determined impedance data, the code corrects pressure data for differences between the pressure created within the spine by the introduction of fluid and the pressure of fluid within the introducer.

15. (Original) The fluid introduction system of claim 14, wherein the introducer includes an identifier including the impedance data and the operator is configured to receive the impedance data from the identifier of the introducer.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The fluid introduction system of claim ~~14~~ 16, comprising:
a pressure sensor configured to provide pressure data indicative of a pressure of fluid present in the introducer;
a fluid introduction sensor configured to provide fluid introduction data indicative of at least one of (a) a rate of fluid introduction and (b) an amount of fluid introduced into the portion of the spine; and

wherein the operator includes code to determine the impedance data based upon the pressure data and the fluid introduction data.

18. (Original) The fluid introduction system of claim 14, wherein the introducer is configured to create a pressure of at least 69 kPa within the spine.

Claims 19-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, ~~wherein the response data comprises data input directly by the patient using~~ further comprising a sliding device.

39. (Currently Amended) The fluid introduction system of claim 38, wherein the response data comprises data inputted directly by the patient using ~~further comprising~~ the sliding device.

40. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 39, wherein the sliding device is correlated to a visual analog scale (VAS) from 0-10 and includes an axis for relating level of concordance, non-concordance, or concordance and non-concordance of the pain.

41. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the response data comprises observed physiological parameters.

42. (Withdrawn) The fluid introduction system of claim 41, wherein observed physiological parameters comprises electromyographic response data.

43. (Withdrawn) The fluid introduction system of claim 41, wherein observed physiological parameters comprises audiovisual recordings of facial responses.

44. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the response data is correlated with actual measurements of disc pressure and a volume of fluid introduced into one or more discs.

45. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 8, wherein the introducer comprises a needle configured for insertion into a spine.

46. (Currently Amended) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
an operator configured to actuate the introducer to introduce fluid into the spine of the patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and
response data indicative of a response of the patient manually inputted ~~input~~
directly by the patient at a time related to a time of the fluid introduction data.

47. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 46, wherein the response data is correlated with actual measurements of disc pressure and a volume of fluid introduced into one or more discs.

48. (Currently Amended) The fluid introduction system of claim 46, further comprising
~~wherein the response data comprises data input~~ directly by the patient using a sliding device.

49. (Currently Amended) The fluid introduction system of claim 48, wherein the response data comprises data inputted directly by the patient using ~~further comprising~~ the sliding device.

50. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 49, wherein the sliding device is correlated to a visual analog scale (VAS) from 0-10 and includes an axis for

relating level of concordance, non-concordance, or concordance and non-concordance of the pain.

51. (Withdrawn) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
an operator configured to actuate the introducer to introduce fluid into the spine of the patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and
response data indicative of a response of the patient at a time related to a time of the fluid introduction data, wherein the response data comprises electromyographic response data.

52. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 48, wherein the response data is correlated with actual measurements of disc pressure and a volume of fluid introduced into one or more discs.

53. (Withdrawn) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
an operator configured to actuate the introducer to introduce fluid into the spine of the patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and
response data indicative of a response of the patient at a time related to a time of the fluid introduction data, wherein the response data comprises an audiovisual recording of a patient response.

54. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 50, wherein the response data is correlated with actual measurements of disc pressure and a volume of fluid introduced into one or more discs.

55. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 14, wherein the impedance data comprises a gauge of a fluid introduction member.

56. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 14, wherein the impedance data comprises a length of a fluid introduction member.

57. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 14, wherein the impedance data comprises an inner diameter of a fluid conduit.

58. (Previously Presented) The fluid introduction system of claim 14, wherein the impedance data comprises a length of a fluid conduit.

59. (New) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
an operator configured to actuate the introducer to introduce fluid into the spine of the patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and
response data indicative of magnitude and quality of a response of the patient at a time related to a time of the fluid introduction data, wherein the response data comprises data inputted directly by the patient using a sliding device.

60. (New) The fluid introduction system of claim 59, further comprising the sliding device.

61. (New) The fluid introduction system of claim 60, wherein the sliding device is correlated to a visual analog scale (VAS) from 0-10 and includes an axis for relating level of concordance, non-concordance, or concordance and non-concordance of the pain.

62. (New) A fluid introduction system, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
an operator configured to actuate the introducer to introduce fluid into the spine of the patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and
response data indicative of a response of the patient inputted directly by the patient at a time related to a time of the fluid introduction data, wherein the response data comprises data inputted directly by the patient using a sliding device.

63. (New) The fluid introduction system of claim 62, further comprising the sliding device.

64. (New) The fluid introduction system of claim 63, wherein the sliding device is correlated to a visual analog scale (VAS) from 0-10 and includes an axis for relating level of concordance, non-concordance, or concordance and non-concordance of the pain.

65. (New) The fluid introduction system of claim 64, wherein the response data is correlated with actual measurements of disc pressure and a volume of fluid introduced into one or more discs.

66. (New) The fluid introduction system of claim 62, wherein the response data is correlated with actual measurements of disc pressure and a volume of fluid introduced into one or more discs.

67. (New) A fluid introduction system for performing discography diagnosis, comprising:
an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;
a computer readable medium having code for receiving:
fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and

pain level and concordance data of the patient responsive to the fluid introduction data, wherein the discography diagnosis is based upon the correlation between the pain level and concordance data and the fluid introduction data.

68. (New) A fluid introduction system for performing discography diagnosis, comprising:

an introducer configured to introduce fluid into a spine of a patient;

a computer readable medium having code for receiving:

fluid introduction data indicative of a fluid introduction parameter; and

response data manually inputted directly by the patient, wherein the discography diagnosis is based upon the correlation between the response data and the fluid introduction data.